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NOTICES FROM THE LICK OBSERVATORY.

PREPARED BY MEMBERS OF THE STAFF.

EARTHQUAKE OF NOVEMBER 6 (OCTOBER 6?), 1711.

In MALLET'S list of earthquakes (*Report* B. A. A. S., 1852, p. 114), there is a reference to a light earthquake shock felt on October 6, 1711, in the neighborhood of Paris. MALLET'S note is copied from *Mémoires* R. Acad. Sci., Paris, 1711, p. 7, where the date is given as October 6, without particulars. No other reference to this earthquake can be found in the library of the LICK Observatory. The *Mémoires* of the Duc de ST. SIMON (A. D. 1711, Chap. XII) refer to this earthquake, but give a date one month later. As the date is of some importance, and as more details are given by ST. SIMON, I have copied the paragraph, and leave the date to be settled by those who have access to large libraries.

E. S. H.

“On sentit sur les huit heures,* du 6 novembre, à Paris et à Versailles, un tremblement de terre si léger qu'assez peu de gens s'en aperçurent. Il fut très-sensible vers la Touraine et le Poitou en quelques endroits, le même jour et à la même heure, en Saxe et dans quelques villes d'Allemagne voisines.”

TWENTY-INCH EQUATORIAL FOR THE OBSERVATORY OF MANILA.

Mr. G. N. SAEGMÜLLER of Washington has just completed the mounting for a 20-inch telescope for Manila. The moving parts weigh about 7500 pounds. A pull of 4 pounds on the hand-wheels will move the instrument in Right Ascension and a trifle less will move it in Declination. A pull of one-eighth of a pound at the eye-end will move it in either direction.

* Du soir. E. S. H.

By means of finding-circles at the south end of the pier, the telescope can be quickly set to the nearest minute of Right Ascension and to 5' in Declination. The Right Ascension finding-circle is driven by a sidereal clock, so that the setting is to the Right Ascension of the object sought, not to the hour-angle.

Mr. SAEGMÜLLER has lately made mountings for the 12-inch equatorials at the United States Naval Observatory, Washington, and for the LADD Observatory, Providence; and for the 9-inch equatorial of the Catholic University of America, Washington. The last edition of his printed catalogue gives plates and general descriptions of his mountings.

E. S. H.

LARGE REFRACTOR FOR THE OBSERVATORY OF MEUDON.

A great refractor has just been finished and placed in position for Dr. JANSSEN at Meudon. It is a combined photographic and visual telescope. The two lenses were made by the celebrated HENRY Brothers, of the Paris Observatory. The mounting is by GAUTHIER, of Paris. Both lenses will be mounted in the same tube, which is *square* and of steel. The visual objective is 82 cm. (32.3 English inches) in diameter, while the photographic objective is 63 cm. (24.8 English inches) diameter. Both lenses are of the same focal length, 17 meters (669 English inches.) The large objective will be the guiding part of the instrument when used for photography. This great telescope is housed in the ruins of the old royal palace, a part of the ruins serving as the tower for the great dome, which dome is 20 meters (66 English feet) in diameter and weighs some 60 or 80 tons. The dome is to be moved by a gas engine of 12 horse-power. The observing chair is attached to the dome and moves with it. All the fine circles are to be read from the eye-end by means of electric lights, the electricity for which is generated by an 8-horse-power engine half a mile distant, in what was formerly the royal stables.—*Scientific American*, November 18, 1893.